

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A restraint device for aiding a personal flotation device's ability to roll a wearer from an airway submerged position to an airway protected position, said device comprising:

a collar adapted for secured positioning within or adjacent to a neck opening of a personal flotation device.

~~2. The restraint device of claim 1 wherein said collar being adjustable in size.~~

3. The restraint device of claim 1 wherein said collar includes a cephalo-mandibular splint.

4. The restraint device of claim 3 wherein said splint is disposed within a cover.

5. The restraint device of claim 3 wherein said splint is constructed from a reasonably stiff yet flexible closed cell foam.

6. The restraint device of claim 1 wherein said collar is adapted for attachment to a personal flotation device.

7. The restraint device of claim 4 wherein said cover is adapted for attachment to the personal flotation device.

8. The restraint device of claim 4 wherein said cover is a loose fabric member adapted for attachment to a neck area of said personal flotation device by stitching.

9. The restraint device of claim 1 wherein said collar comprises:

a first flap member adapted for attachment to the personal flotation device, said first flap member including a first stiff member disposed within;

a second flap member adapted for attachment to the personal flotation device, said second flap member including a

second stiff member disposed within, said second flap member adjustably secured to said first flap member.

10. The restraint device of claim 9 wherein said first flap member is adapted for removable attachment to the personal flotation device at or adjacent to the neck opening of the personal flotation device and said second member adapted for removable attachment to the personal flotation device at or adjacent to the neck opening of the personal flotation device.

11. The restraint device of claim 3 further including a first flap member adapted for attachment to the personal flotation device and a second flap member adapted for attachment to the personal flotation device, said second flap member adjustably secured to said first flap member for proper positioning of said splint.

12. The restraint device of claim 3 wherein said split having a positioning notch.

13. The restraint device of claim 9 wherein said first flap member adjustably secured to said second flap member through a first hook and loop fastening member disposed on said first flap member and a complementary second hook and loop fastening member disposed on said second flap member.

14. The restraint device of claim 11 wherein said first flap member adjustably secured to said second flap member through a first hook and loop fastening member disposed on said first flap member and a complementary second hook and loop fastening member disposed on said second flap member.

15. The restraint device of claim 1 wherein said collar includes an elongated relatively stiff member adapted for attachment to the personal flotation device at a first location and adapted for movable securement to the personal flotation device at a second location.

16. The restraint device of claim 15 wherein said stiff member including a chin positioning notch.

17. A personal flotation device, comprising:

a first substantially "F" shaped member;

a second substantially "F" shaped member, said second substantially "F" shaped member adjustably secured to said first substantially "F" shaped member in an overlapping reversed configuration to define a neck opening.

18. The personal flotation device of claim 17 further including means for securing said first substantially "F" shaped member and said second substantially "F" shaped member to a wearer.

19. The personal flotation device of claim 17 further including a retaining member for adjustably securing said first substantially "F" shaped member to said second substantially "F" shaped member.

20. The personal flotation device of claim 19 wherein said retaining member is a fabric member.

21. The personal flotation device of claim 17 wherein said first substantially "F" shaped member is constructed from foam and said second substantially "F" shaped member is constructed from foam.